

Present: Alderpersons John Ellington, Heather Kierzek & Kathleen Thurow
Absent: None
Also Present: Mayor, Mike Palm; Finance Director, Cynthia Haggard; Police Captain, Rob Sinden; City Clerk, Brenda Zeman; and City Attorney, Emily Truman.
Citizen Present: Brian Tegan @ 2125 Surrey Lane

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Ellington at 8:00AM CST., with roll call and noting compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

Motion by Thurow to approve the minutes of September 8, 2020, seconded by Kierzek and unanimously carried.

Ellington sought a motion to accept the original agenda. Motion by Kierzek to approve the original agenda, seconded by Thurow and unanimously carried.

Consider application for keeping chickens – Mariah Phillips

Zeman mentioned that this application was brought to the Committee at the last meeting. It was held over until the owner gave permission, since the applicant was a tenant. An approval from the owner was part of today's packet.

Motion to approve the application for keeping chickens for Mariah Phillips by Thurow, seconded by Kierzek and unanimously carried.

Consider application for keeping chickens – Andrew Lombard

Zeman mentioned this application was brought to the committee at the last meeting. She also reminded the Committee that staff was to attempt to obtain a completed application. Zeman continued to inform the Committee that she attempted to obtain a completed application to no avail.

Motion to deny the application for keeping chickens for Andrew Lombard by Thurow, seconded by Kierzek and unanimously carried.

Consider application for keeping chickens – James Dyer

Zeman indicated that this application is new and is being brought to the Committee, because there was a complaint submitted from a neighbor. The application and the copy of the complaint letter was attached to the agenda.

Thurow stated she visited the site and was concerned about the chickens being overcrowded. Ellington questioned if the Police Department should go back out to see if the coop meets the size requirements. Captain Sinden mentioned he would go back out to the location to see if the chicken coop is in violation of the Ordinance. Ellington added that when he went out there, it was feeding time and chickens crowd each other at the front of the coop. He also thought it looked like the coop met code requirements, and the chickens had a run in the back.

Motion to delay the application so that the Police Department may have a chance to see if the coop meets the Ordinance's size requirement by Thurow, seconded by Kierzek and unanimously carried.

Discussion Item: Consider changing Code 10.06, "Junk, Certain Vehicles, Recreational Equipment and Firewood"

Kierzek was contacted by Brian Tegan @ 2125 Surrey Lane about the ability to park campers in driveways while alternate side parking is in effect. This action would keep citizens from having to store the campers in the winter. Kierzek continued that she didn't see that there was a safety reason for the language in the Code.

Tegan mentioned the reason this issue is being raised is that someone complained about his new camper being in the driveway. He was told by an Officer that he would have to move it to the street, then back into the driveway or that he could park it in his back yard. He doesn't have room on the side of his house for the latter. He added that there would be a safety concern with parking it on the Street. Kids may not be able to see around the camper. His request was that if the Code couldn't change, perhaps issue waivers for special situations.

Sinden interjected that he felt it would be safer to have the camper on the driveway as opposed to the street.

Direction was given by the Committee to have staff provide different variations for the Code.

Discussion Item: Discuss a citizen's request to add domestic ducks and/or quail to permitted fowl in Chapter 29.13, "Chicken Permit."

Truman began with letting the Commission know that she had the CSO look into this matter, and the CSO received feedback from the Humane Society and other Animal Welfare Groups. Ducks and quail are pretty much considered the same as chickens in terms of being able to be kept; the requirements for keeping them are similar. Truman contacted other municipalities and found that other municipalities allow ducks and quails. Truman offered that If the Committee is inclined to allow ducks and quails that the Commission direct staff to come back with an actual composed Ordinance for the Commission to review.

Direction was given by the Committee to have staff provide a draft Ordinance.

Member comments

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 8:00AM CST. Meeting location will be remote and Room C205 will be available for citizens who may want to attend in person.

Motion to adjourn by Kierzek, seconded by Thurow and unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:22AM CST.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Haggard, Finance Director